



## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Brown called the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge to order at 8:30 a.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Stephen A. Del Guercio, Laura Olhasso, Mayor Pro Tem David Spence, and Mayor Gregory C. Brown

Absent: Councilmember Anthony J. Portantino

Staff members present: City Manager Alexander, Director of Public Works Castellanos, Director of Community Development Stanley, City Treasurer Voss, City Engineer Kwan, Senior Management Analyst Goytia Strauss, Public Safety Coordinator Stegner, Management Analyst Alameda, Management Analyst Wilson, Joanne Bortfeld, Senior Accountant and City Clerk Sessman

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Randy Strapazon, La Cañada Flintridge Trails Council representative.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Brown opened the public comment period. There were no comments from the public.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

This matter is continued from the June 26, 2006 meeting.

### **1. REVIEW OF THE FY 2006-07 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND FINANCIAL PLAN AND THE FY 2006-07 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEMS**

Consideration and discussion among and between the City Council and staff proceeded regarding the following budget items as detailed in the Preliminary Budget & Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2006-07 and Council Consideration Items:

#### ***Budget Recap***

City Manager Alexander distributed and briefly discussed the recap of the June 19, 22 and 26, 2006 meetings.

City Manager Alexander announced that representatives from the Tournament of Roses Parade (Supplemental Items); and representatives from the Music Parents Association are requesting to present verbal requests for funding.

Councilmember Del Guercio stated that he was recusing himself from any discussions of items pertaining to a current or future contract with the County of Los Angeles, since the County is a source of income to his firm.

Mayor Brown indicated that the City Council would hear from the Community Groups today but there would be no action on the requests until the budget review is complete.

## **Council Consideration Items**

### ***Requests from Community Groups***

#### **C1 – One City, One Book**

Michael Gross requested funding in the amount of \$1,000, in order to continue the One City, One Book program during the upcoming year. He explained that this program, initiated in 2004, strives to create an appreciation for literature by encouraging community members to read a featured book during a selected month. The Committee features a book every year. This year's choice is "March," by Geraldine Brooks. The Committee uses the City's funding to market the program within the community, public advertisements and to cover the cost of a guest speaker to further promote the featured book.

**Consensus:** There was a consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$500.

#### **C2 – RBCC Teen Programs/Ceramic Equipment**

Barbara Nitzkowski, RBCC Board President, commented on the many projects of the organization and identified those planned for the upcoming year. She requested that the City Council act favorably on their request for \$17,500.

Aaron Solomon, Executive Director, responded to an inquiry by Councilmember Olhasso regarding a similar request for funding received from the YMCA.

#### **C3 – Crescenta-Canada YMCA Youth/Senior Programs**

Debra Wyrick, Development Director, requested \$34,100. She explained that \$8,100 will be used to conduct the following Youth programs: Youth Day in the Park, WORCS Faire and Healthy Kids Day; \$3,300 for fingerprinting software; and one-third of the personnel costs of the Community Senior Services Director's salary, \$28,500 for a total of \$34,100.

Mayor Pro Tem Spence inquired whether the Sheriff's department offers fingerprinting service.

Councilmember Olhasso inquired whether the YMCA had gone to Glendale Community Foundation to see if a supplemental grant was available.

City Manager Alexander inquired of the YMCA that if the City provided this funding would the City be able to access the fingerprint service without charge and whether the YMCA would be willing to take over the Senior Directory currently hosted on the City's website. In response, Ms. Wyrick stated that she did not see a problem with having the YMCA take over maintenance of the Senior Directory.

#### **C4 – Leisure Club of La Cañada Flintridge**

There was no one in attendance to present.

### **C5 – Lanterman Historical Museum Foundation**

City Manager Alexander stated that during last year's budget discussions, the City Council directed staff to build into the City's annual budget the COLA increase for the Executive Director position. He stated that the employment cost for the Executive Director has already been factored into the budget under our standard cost of living adjustment that is provided to City employees.

Robert Moses, President of the Historical Museum, discussed with the City Council the requested \$35,950 and its intended use and their fundraising plans for the coming year.

### **C6 – La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce and Community Association**

Joe Thompson, President, provided an overview of ongoing activities and requested funding of \$78,000.

### ***Special Fund Requests***

#### **S2 – La Cañada Flintridge Tournament of Roses Association**

Sue Beatty, President, announced that the Association is requesting an allocation of \$15,000 to support the continuation of a series of infrastructure upgrades, as well as modifications to the mechanical chassis of the float. She explained that these upgrades are necessary to continue to achieve their goal of building a float that is humorous, highly animated and competitive with commercial Rose Parade floats.

#### **S3 – La Cañada High School Music Parents Association**

Susan Hamre, LCHS Instrumental Music Director, distributed a DVD of the LCHS Band trip to China and requested \$5,000 to protect band uniforms,

Steven Edberg, LCHS Music Parents Association President, provided an overview of upcoming expenses and requested funding of \$5,000.

### ***Operations & Maintenance***

#### **B6 – Funding a Bicycle Race in the City of La Cañada Flintridge** (Continued from June 26, 2006 Special Meeting)

Management Analyst Alameda provided an overview and introduced John Moldafsky from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Moldafsky provided a brief background on the proposed Bike Race request. He requested that the amount be reduced to \$2,000 to cover traffic studies and preliminary studies. In addition, he requested that the bike race be post-poned to a date uncertain due to the upcoming construction of the La Canada Properties Commercial Center. He expressed his support for the program but his desire is to see the least amount of financial strain put on the City as possible.

In response to a comment made by Councilmember Del Guercio, Commissioner Moldafsky explained that the \$2,000 currently being requested is for an analysis, traffic study and evaluation.

#### **E19 – La Cañada Boulevard Sidewalk Project**

Craig Miller, Lillian Ramon, and Mayra del Valle, residents of La Cañada Flintridge, expressed their support for the La Cañada Boulevard Sidewalk project and the importance of this project to the safety of our youth.

The City Council requested that the Sheriff's Department patrol La Cañada Boulevard during drop-off and pick-up times.

Councilmember Del Guercio requested a brief overview of the funding relating to La Canada Boulevard in the FY 2006-07 budget. City Manager Alexander explained that the City Council has budgeted \$166,500 and there is a Council Consideration Item for \$450,000.

In response to an inquiry, Director Castellanos explained that the \$166,500 covers the construction of drop-off and design of sidewalk, while the \$450,000 Council Consideration Item will cover construction of the sidewalk.

#### **B – 4 Code Enforcement Cost Recovery Contract & B – 5 Contract Code Enforcement Officer**

Al Brady, Code Enforcement Manager, Willdan, provided a brief overview of cost recovery programs that can be implemented by the City to assist in recovering some of the costs for providing code enforcement services.

Mayor Pro Tem Spence expressed his desire to see violators penalized in order to discourage blatant and habitual violations from occurring. In addition, he expressed his desire to make this as cost neutral as possible.

Councilmember Del Guercio expressed his support for having an enforcement officer but expressed concern with sending the wrong message.

In response, Mr. Brady explained that staff is trying to maintain the integrity of La Cañada Flintridge, deal with any health and safety issues, and find a way to recoup some of the costs associated with hiring a full time code enforcement officer. He explained that the City's code enforcement program is reactive, not proactive and there are no plans to change that.

In response to inquiries from the City Council, Mr. Brady stated that he feels there would be a cost recovery up to 50% for a contract Code Enforcement Officer.

Councilmember Del Guercio expressed his desire and a need for building permit fees to be properly scaled so that the City can recover the costs associated with projects.

#### ***Personnel***

##### **A1 – Senior Civil Engineer**

Councilmember Del Guercio inquired whether AQMD funds could be used to fund this position.

##### **A2 – Planner**

Director Stanley presented the request.

##### **A3 – Upgrade of Planning Aide to Assistant Planner**

Director Stanley presented the request.

## ***Operations & Maintenance***

### **B1 – Engineering & Traffic Speed Survey Updates**

In response to an inquiry by Councilmember Olhasso, Director Castellanos stated that this item can not be put off for another year. He stated that these surveys must be updated every five to seven years to ensure that speeds reflect current conditions as dictated by the vehicle code. The City's current E&T Survey is over the seven year limit. In addition, he stated that AQMD funds cannot be used to fund this project.

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$40,000.

### **B2 – Arroyo Seco Watershed Management & Restoration**

Mayor Brown stated that the City Council has already committed itself to this project.

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$50,000.

### **B3 – General Plan Update**

In response to inquiries by the City Council, City Manager Alexander explained that \$50,000 is currently budgeted.

**Consensus:** Following a brief discussion, there was a consensus of the City Council to approve \$100,000. The City Council expressed their desire to focus on the Land Use and Housing Element. In addition, the City Council directed staff to bring back a presentation on a process that will include a conceptual plan, establishing a General Plan Advisory Committee, and timeline of the project from beginning to end.

### **B4 – Code Enforcement Cost Recovery Contract**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$10,000.

### **B5 – Contract Code Enforcement Officer**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$50,000.

### **B6 – Funding a Bicycle Race in the City of La Cañada Flintridge**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to express to the Parks and Recreation Commission a need for further study of this project and directed staff to find funds internally.

## ***Requests from Community Group***

### **C1 – One City, One Book**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$500.

### **C2 – RBCC Teen Programs/Ceramic Equipment**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$15,000.

### **C3 – Crescenta-Canada YMCA Youth/Senior Programs**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$28,500. In addition, Community Senior Services Director will take over the maintenance of the Senior Directory on the City's website and if "live scan" fingerprint is purchased, such services will be free to the City.

**C4 – Leisure Club of La Cañada Flintridge**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$3,000.

**C5 – Lanterman Historical Museum Foundation**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$30,000 for use on the new roof.

**C6 – La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce and Community Association**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$70,000.

**Supplemental Items:****S2 – La Cañada Flintridge Tournament of Roses Association**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$12,500.

**S3 – La Cañada High School Music Parents Association**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$3,000.

***General Fund Personnel*****A1 – Senior Civil Engineer**

Councilmember Del Guercio inquired whether AQMD funds could be used to fund this position.

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request as a temporary position for three years.

**A2 – Planner**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request.

**A3 – Upgrade of Planning Aide to Assistant Planner**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request.

***Capital Projects*****D1 – Lanterman Auditorium ( Refinish hardwood floor)**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to deny the request.

**D2 – Planning Department Modular Furnishings**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request in the amount of \$2,500 for the reconfiguring of Senior Planner Buss' office.

**D3 – Electronic Speed Awareness Display Sign**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to deny the request, unless it can be funded out of AQMD funds.

**D4 – Cabling Improvements to Council Chambers**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to deny the request.

**D5 – Flint Canyon Trail Improvements (Xsfr. Out – to B&G)**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$75,750.

**D6 – Rockridge Terrace to YMCA Trail (Xsfr. Out – to B&G)**

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to deny the request.

**D7 – Red Route Bikeway Corr. (Xsfr. Out – to B&G)**

Management Analyst Wilson stated that the City Council has already committed itself to this project.

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request. The City Council directed staff to fund the project using Prop C funds.

**Special Fund Requests**

**S1 – Route 710 Environmental/Legal Consultant**

Councilmember Del Guercio expressed his support for approving \$100,000 from reserves to fund this request. He stated that the City does not have the expertise that will be needed in order to protect the interests of the community and maintain the quality of life in the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

Mayor Brown and Mayor Pro Tem Spence expressed their support for phasing this request and approving a request for \$50,000 to begin the process.

**Consensus:** There was consensus of the City Council to approve the request at \$50,000.

**CONCLUDING BUSINESS**

Councilmembers' reports regarding regional and local representation - *None*

Councilmembers' requests for future agenda items - *None*

Councilmembers' comments - *None*

City Manager and/or staff comments

City Manager Alexander stated that the City Council would meet on Wednesday, June 28, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. to continue budget deliberations.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

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Kathleen R. Sessman  
City Clerk

Minutes Approved by the City Council on September 18, 2006.